

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND AGEING

MEDIA ALERT
Issued: 31 October 2011

Chair: Steve Georganas MP Deputy Chair: Steve Irons MP

Medicare and Centrelink to appear before Overseas Trained Doctors Inquiry

The House of Representatives Health and Ageing Committee will hold a public hearing on Tuesday 1 November 2011 in Canberra with Medicare to discuss the operation and effect of section 19AB of the *Health Insurance Act* 1973 as it relates to the registration processes for overseas trained doctors (OTDs) seeking full Australian registration and accreditation.

The Committee will also discuss aspects of social support available to overseas trained doctors and their families with representatives of Centrelink.

Committee Chair, Mr Steve Georganas MP said: "One of the most contentious issues encountered by the Committee is the restriction placed on overseas trained doctors by the *Health Insurance Act* 1973. This hearing will enable the Committee to gain a better understanding of the operation of this process. The hearing will also enable the Committee to examine the types of Commonwealth social support available to overseas trained doctors should periods of difficulty with their employment arise".

PROGRAM

12:00pmMedicare and Centrelink1:00pmClose

The hearing will be held in Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House CANBERRA

The hearing will be webcast live on: http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/.

All are welcome to attend.

For media comment, please contact Hannah Frank from the office of Steve Georganas by phone on 0419 849 048.

For all other enquiries, please contact the Committee Secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: <u>www.aph.gov.au/haa</u>.